

SPORTS: ROAD TO STATE BEGINS FOR CENTRAL COOSA COUGARS



The Outlook
Weekend

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Russell Retail
to become
event center

STAFF REPORT
TPI Staff

Since the Russell Retail Store at the corner of Highway 280 and Elkahatchee Road was closed last fall and purchased by Russell Medical, what would become of the landmark building had been a frequent question.

Next month Alexander City will have a new event center to consider when planning meetings, reunions, parties, weddings and more.

The former Russell Retail property, which was acquired by Russell Medical in 2017, is currently being renovated to become what Russell Medical Foundation Executive Director Tammy Jackson hopes to be one of the most affordable event venues in the area.

The iconic building is a beloved landmark in Alexander City and Russell Medical CEO Jim Peace wanted to ensure the building remained intact – so the event center idea was born.

According to Jackson, there are several factors that make the unique building the perfect location for an event: ease of access, an abundance of parking and a spacious area for caterers to prep – not to mention the ambiance of the space.

“This is something that will be beneficial to our community. It’s conveniently located and it is an icon in our area,” Jackson said.

“We felt like an event

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Donald Campbell / The Outlook

Radney students enjoy school dance

Top, Jiah Hunter gets down with the beat at the 2018 Radney Elementary School Winter Dance Thursday evening. Above, Arionna, Alese, Kennedy, Makenly, Cecilia, Cernity and Zakiya groove to the music. To see more photos from the dance, see Page 10 inside today.

Babies found
buried in an
Eclectic yard

Mother said she miscarried;
full autopsy report underway to
determine if babies were stillborn

By DAVID GRANGER
Staff Writer

Eclectic Police have interviewed the mother of two babies buried in the yard of a residence in the 10,000 block of Georgia Road near the Rushenville community that a preliminary report from the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS) says were stillborn.

Chief Robert Head of the EPD said the mother was interviewed on

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Council to consider
joining lawsuit against
opioid manufacturers

By MITCH SNEED
Editor

The impact of opioid abuse across the state and nation has been making headlines and Monday night the Alexander City City Council will consider joining several other Alabama towns and cities in a lawsuit against the manufacturers of the drugs.

According to supporting documentation, the council agenda will consider a resolution to authorize the mayor to execute an agreement with attorney Tom Whatley and Beasley, Allen Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C. to represent the city’s interest in the lawsuit.

The agreement reads in part:

“Opioid manufacturers and distributors are the primary defendants in these lawsuits. There are two main litigation theories asserted against these defendants: Suing the manufacturers for promoting use of opioids for non-cancer

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Methodist church
serving up annual
stew lunch today

By DONALD CAMPBELL
Staff Writer

Members from all three campuses of the First United Methodist Church of Alexander City came together Thursday morning at the Trinity campus on Highway 280 to start cooking up food for the church’s annual Brunswick stew fellowship lunch, scheduled for today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“This has been going on since at least 1956,” Trinity campus Pastor

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Donald Campbell / The Outlook

Gary Mask, left, Chris Baker and Mike Simmons stir up a pot of pork in preparation for today’s Brunswick stew lunch at the Trinity campus of First United Methodist Church.

State of City
event to be
held Feb. 22

STAFF REPORT
TPI Staff

The Alexander City Chamber of Commerce will host its inaugural State of the City event Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Central Alabama Community College’s Betty Carol Graham Center. Local officials will take turns updating the audience on key issues facing the community and what their priorities are for

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Today's
Weather
71 High 52 Low

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